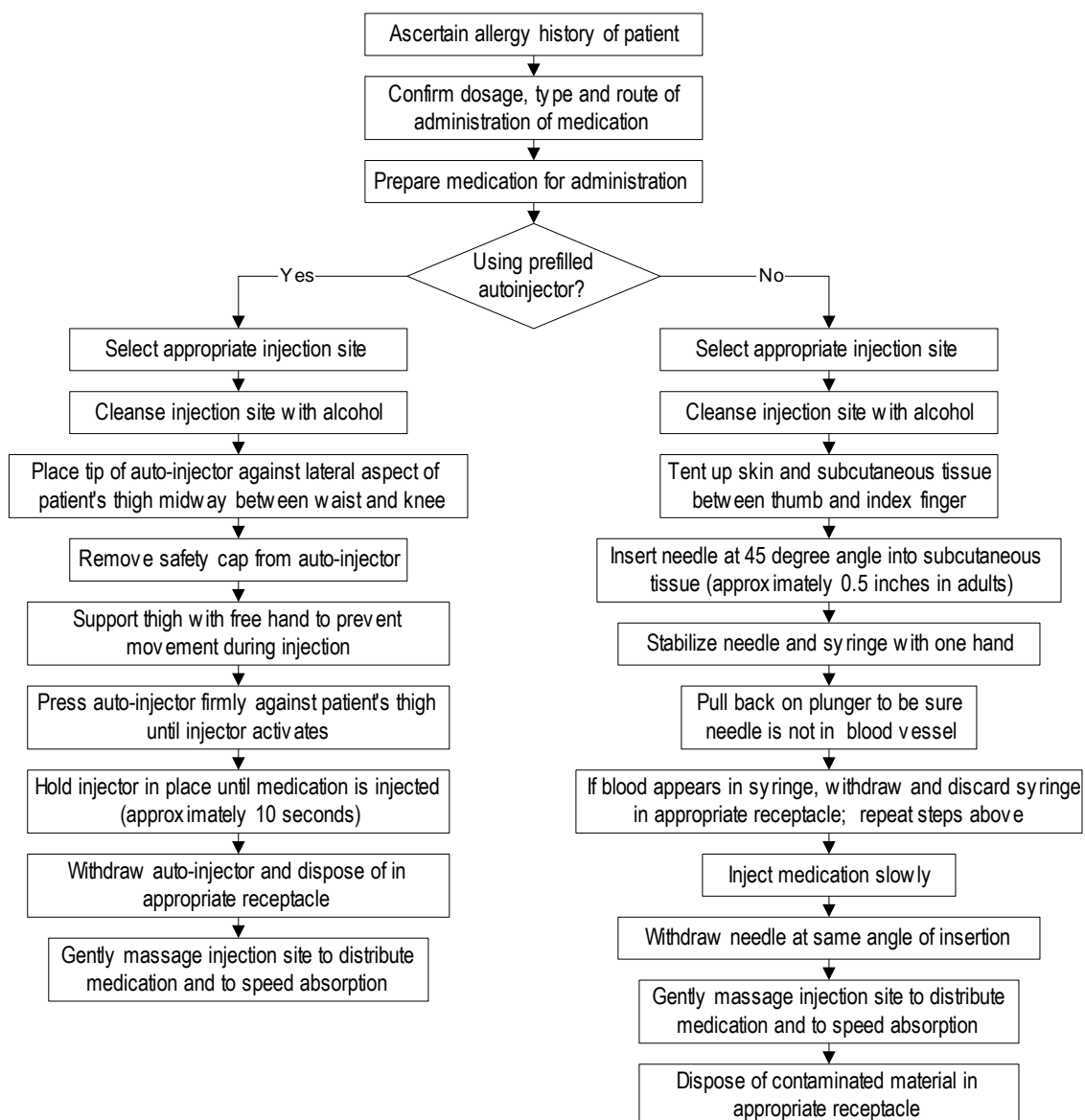


Initial: 9/92
Reviewed/revised: 2/16/11
Revision: 3

**MILWAUKEE COUNTY EMS**  
**PRACTICAL SKILL**  
**SUBCUTANEOUS**  
**ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION**

Approved by: Ronald Pirrallo, MD, MHSA
Signature:
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<b>Purpose:</b> To deliver medication to the subcutaneous tissue for absorption by blood vessels		<b>Indications:</b> Anaphylaxis Severe respiratory distress due to bronchospasm	
<b>Advantages:</b> Delivers medication slowly for distribution throughout the body Effects sustained over a period of time Does not require IV access	<b>Disadvantages:</b> Pain Only 0.5 ml of medication may be administered subQ Cannot give tissue-irritating medication subQ	<b>Complications:</b> Infection Accidental IV injection if needle tip is in vein	<b>Contraindications:</b> Infection at injection site



**NOTES:**

- Hypotension is usually a contraindication for subcutaneous injections due to the lack of peripheral circulation to pick up medication.